

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-05 ISO-00 SSO-00 /014 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 240705

LIMDIS FOR PARIS: FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN

FOLLOWING REPEATSECSTATE 240705 ACTION TEHRAN DATED 1 NOV 74

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 240705

LIMDIS TOSEC 497

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE, INFO BRUSSELS, COPENHAGEN,  
HELSINKI, REYKJAVIK, STOCKHOLM, NOV 1, FROM OSLO RPTD TO  
YOU:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 4874

LIMDIS

E.O. 10652: GDS

TAGS/ ENRG, NO

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTS KISSINGER-FRYDENLUND DEAL ON ECG-  
POSSIBLE NOON PRESS BRIEFING QUESTION

1. OSLO DAILY NEWSPAPER VERDENS GANG PUBLISHED  
TODAY ARTICLE STATING THAT NORWEGIAN FOREIGN  
MINISTER KNUT FRYDENLUND PROMISED SECRETARY  
KISSINGER EARLY THIS FALL AT UN THAT HE WOULD  
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HOLD OFF UNTIL OCTOBER 29 BEFORE ANNOUNCING

NORWAY'S DECISION NOT TO SEEK ECG MEMBERSHIP  
IN ORDER THAT OTHER GOVERNMENTS WOULD NOT  
GET COLD FEET ON THEIR OWN MEMBERSHIP.

2. ARTICLE SAID THAT GOVERNMENT HAD MADE ITS  
DECISION ON ECG REJECTION SOME TIME AGO, AND THAT  
RECENT GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES THAT DECISION WAS  
UNDER SERIOUS REVIEW AND THAT MATTER WAS BEING  
FULLY CONSIDERED WITH PARLIAMENT WAS GOVERNMENT  
PLAY ACTING.

3. ADDITIONALLY ARTICLE SAYS NORWEGIAN RADIO-  
TV BROADCASTING (NRK) PLANNED TO CARRY STORY  
ON THIS ALLEGED FRYDENLUND-KISSINGER "SECRET  
DEAL" ON OCTOBER 31 EVENING NEWS AND THROUGH  
LABOR PARTY COLLEAGUE, NRK DIRECTOR TOROLF  
ELSTER, FRYDENLUND HAD THE NEWS ACCOUNT SUPPRESSED.

4. THIS AFTERNOON FOREIGN MINISTRY  
ISSUED FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON NEWS  
ARTICLE:

"IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION FROM THE NORWEGIAN  
NEWS AGENCY (NTB) THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS MR. KNUT FRYDENLUND DECLARES THAT NO  
AGREEMENT HAS BEEN CONCLUDED BETWEEN  
HIMSELF AND THE U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE TO  
THE EFFECT THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT  
PUBLISH ITS STANDPOINT ON MEMBERSHIP OF THE  
ECG BEFORE THE OTHER COUNTRIES CONCERNED HAD  
ANNOUNCED THEIR RESPECTIVE DECISIONS.

AT THE TIME WHEN THE CONVERSATION BETWEEN  
THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND THE U.S. SECRETARY  
OF STATE TOOK PLACE THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT  
HAD NOT YET DECIDED ON ITS STANDPOINT REGARDING  
THE QUESTION OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE ECG."

"IT IS QUITE A DIFFERENT MATTER THAT,  
WHILE THE SUBJECT WAS UNDER DISCUSSION, THE  
GOVERNMENT CONSIDERED IT OF IMPORTANCE TO  
PROCEED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO AVOID CAUSING  
COMPLICATIONS FOR THE OTHER COUNTRIES' DECI-  
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SIONS ON THE SUBJECT."

5. THE STORY IS VERY LIKELY TO CAUSE FRYDENLUND  
AND THE GOVERNMENT SERIOUS EMBARRASSMENT. LABOR  
HAS BEEN UNDER CRITICISM FOR ITS DECISIONS ON  
AND HANDLING OF SEVERAL FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES  
RECENTLY, MOST NOTABLY THE ECG AND PLO (OSLO 4857).  
IN WHAT IS DEVELOPING AS A QUIET STORTING SESSION

THIS CASE COULD ASSUME LARGER POLITICAL PROPORTIONS  
PUTTING THE GOVERNMENT AND THE FOREIGN  
MINISTER IN VERY UNCOMFORTABLE POSITIONS.

6. SINCE ISSUE COULD WELL BE SOURCE OF QUESTION  
FOR DEPARTMENT'S NOON PRESS BRIEFING, EMBASSY  
SUGGESTS THAT SINCE PRINCIPAL IMMEDIATE ALLEGATION  
AFFECTING U.S. HINGES ON DISCUSSION BETWEEN  
SECRETARY AND FOREIGN MINISTER DEPARTMENT MAY  
WISH, IF ASKED, TO REFER TO FRYDENLUND'S  
STATEMENT (COMMENT: WHICH WE BELIEVE IS  
ACCURATE AS FAR AS IT GOES.) IF FURTHER COMMENT  
BY DEPARTMENT IS REQUIRED IT MAY BE POINTED  
OUT THAT THE U.S. WAS CERTAINLY NOT UNDER THE  
IMPRESSION THAT NORWAY HAD MADE FIRM DECISION  
TO REJECT ECG MEMBERSHIP SINCE U.S. WAS UP TO  
VERY RECENT DAYS SEEKING TO ENCOURAGE NORWAY  
TO JOIN PROGRAM AS FULL MEMBER. BYRNE UNQUOTE.  
INGERSOLL  
UNQUOTE  
INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

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